

President U Thein Sein arrives back after paying goodwill visits to New Zealand, Australia

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—President U Thein Sein left Sydney International Airport at 12.15 pm local time yesterday by air, after paying goodwill visits to New Zealand and Australia from 13 to 20 March.

The President and his entourage arrived back here via Singapore at 10.15 am today.

President U Thein Sein and party were welcomed back by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers, the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and departmental heads at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win, Union Ministers and deputy ministers, who accompanied the President, arrived back on the same flight.

MNA



President U Thein Sein being welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on his return from goodwill visits to New Zealand and Australia.—MNA

Plan underway to upgrade Mandalay International Airport

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—As Myanmar promotes international relations and gains development momentum in tourism industry, a plan is underway to upgrade Mandalay International Airport for smooth transport of people through aviation services of airlines, said an official of Department of Civil Aviation of the Ministry of Transport.

“Preparations are being made for upgrading Mandalay International Airport to be able to give better and smooth services for flight schedules and travelling of passengers,” he continued.

Proposals are invited from local companies for upgrading tasks, and the eligible company will be assigned duty.

Myanmar has three

international airports in Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay. Hanthawady International Airport is under construction.

About 46 civil airports are in use across the nation. Plans are being implemented for construction of new airports.

Mandalay International Airport is the largest one in Myanmar. Its 14000 feet long runway is the longest facility in South-East Asian region. The airport can handle about three million passengers on departure and arrival yearly.

Mandalay International Airport at which Boeing planes can land and take off was opened on 17 September 2000.

The facility is located 21 miles south of Mandalay.

Myanma Alinn



NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—The following is unofficial translation of announcement 1/2013 issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Central Bank of Myanmar

Announcement No. 1/2013

10th Waxing of Tabaung 1374 ME

(21 March 2013)

Announcing the program that enables FEC holders to exchange Foreign Exchange Certificates-FEC without having a loss on it

1. Under the agreement of the Government Meeting (4/93) held on 27-1-1993, the Central Bank of Myanmar started issuing Foreign Exchange Certificates (FEC) on 4-2-1993.
2. For the convenience of tourists and foreign investors and facilitating foreign currency-driven businesses, the Central Bank of Myanmar allowed the use of these certificates within the country as an initial stage of monetary change before foreign exchange rate reform was fully introduced.
3. The Central Bank of Myanmar started practicing Managed Floating Exchange Rate Regime on 1-4-2012 with the adoption of exchange rate integration program. Foreign Exchange Management Law was enacted in accord with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No (12) on 10-8-2012.
4. The Central Bank of Myanmar is implementing the task of ensuring the emergence of official foreign exchange market within the country and development of foreign exchange market systematically as follow:-
 - (a) issuing license after scrutinizing the application for running a foreign exchange business.

(See page 8)

National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) ready to offer its service to readers



NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu made an inspection tour of National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) which is under construction on Yazahtani Road in Pobbathiri Township, here, on 18 March. More than 250,000 books have been

moved to the already-built first building of the library and arrangements are being made to provide e-Library service to readers with over 15000 books in early May.

National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) is complete with

four buildings. Construction work of one building has been completed by cent per cent and construction of the remaining three buildings will be carried out, depending on the funds allotted. — MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister's inspection tour

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye inspected stockpile of raw materials at No (6) Textile Industries in Salingyi Township, progress of construction of South Yamar creek bridge on Pathein-Monywa road and supply of agriculture water to 100-acre paddy plantation in Kyartat village through under-ground water tapping and progress in construction of a two-storey school building for Kyartat village BEHS on 17 March.

On 18 March, the chief minister made an address at the ceremony to donate 60 sets of computers to University of Technology (Monywa) and University of Computer Science (Monywa) by the Sagaing Region government and companies.

Next, he met with officials of Sagaing Region Immigration and National Registration Department.

Then he visited Monywa Industrial Zone and observed production process of cotton mills.

On his arrival at the ceremony to give free eye surgery to 31 patients with eye complaint, jointly-organized by Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Sagaing Region WAO, at Monywa Hospital, the chief minister spoke words of encouragement. — MNA

KBZ Bank opens Mae Kong Branch in Tachilek

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — The opening of Mae Kong Branch of Tachilek (2), which is the 100th branch of Kanbawza Bank Ltd, was held at the bank branch near No 2 Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge in Mae Kong Ward of Tachilek yesterday.

Director of Kanbawza Bank Ltd Daw Nan Lai Kham and four female national races formally opened the bank branch.

Chairman of the bank U Aung Ko Win, members of the BOD and guests visited the branch.

KBZ banks associated with Western Union of

the US give remittance services in addition to ATM card, MPU debit card, hire purchase, gift cheque, money changer and foreign bank services to the customers. The bank has installed 32 remittance counters and over 200 POS Terminals across the nation. — NLM



Drowsy driving car accident in Paung Township

PAUNG, 21 March — An express bus of Pit Taing Htaung highway bus line skidded out of control and overturned at Bridge No (4/175) on Yangon-Mawlamyine road near Kywechan village in Paung Township at about 4.30 am on 18 March.

The bus carrying

passengers driven by Khin Maung Tun turned over, leaving three passengers out of 14 injured. It is learnt that the car accident was due to drowsiness of the driver at the wheel. The injured were admitted to the hospital in the township. Paung Police Station filed a lawsuit against the driver. — Kyemon



“Watching the Weather to Protect Life and Property”
World Meteorology Day
23rd March



Myanmar swimming team bags 11 gold, 14 silver and four bronze in international swimming event in Singapore

YANGON, 21 March — The victorious Myanmar swimming team led by U Maung Maung Sein arrived back here on 19 March after taking part in 44th Singapore National Age Group Swimming Championship 2013 held from 15 to 18 March in

Singapore. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials concerned.

Maung Arnt Khaung Htut won one gold and four silver, Ma Eingyin Kay Khine, one silver and three bronze, Ma Khant Khant Su San three gold,

six silver and one bronze, and Ma Su Moe Theint San, seven gold and three silver. Myanmar swimming team bagged 11 gold, 14 silver and four bronze and scored 254 points, taking its tally to seventh in the table of 22 countries.

Kyemon

Free milk to all primary school children in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 21 March — In meeting with officials concerned and responsible persons of Myanmar



Livestock Federation and entrepreneurs at Mandalay Region Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department on 9 March, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint called for development of milch cow breeding to be able to produce more milk and to provide free milk to school children. As a drive to ensure human resource development, school children are to be provided with free milk daily for their physical and brain development.

He called on

entrepreneurs to cooperate with the department in livestock breeding sector as population of milch cows stands only at about 500,000 while there are 17 million head of cattle in Myanmar. Under the School Milk Program jointly-organized by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, children of primary schools in Mandalay Region will be provided with free milk next three years in succession starting from June of 2013-2014 academic year, it is learnt. — Kyemon

WORLD

Russia's Putin invites Netanyahu to visit Moscow

JERUSALEM, 21 March—Russian President Vladimir Putin has invited Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to visit Russia, an Israeli official said on Wednesday.



Russian President Vladimir Putin (L) listens to Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as they speak after delivering their joint statements following their meeting in Jerusalem on 25 June, 2012.—REUTERS

Putin sent Netanyahu the invitation in a letter but no date for the visit was specified, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Prime Minister Netanyahu received

a letter from Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulating him on the formation of the new government in Israel and inviting Netanyahu to visit Moscow," the official said.

The invitation came hours before US President Barack Obama was due to land in Israel to begin his first official visit as president to the country, hoping to reset his often fraught relations with both the Israelis and Palestinians.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas visited Moscow last week where he said he hoped peace talks with Israel would restart this year, although he added that the chances for this appeared slim.

Reuters

Iran would need around a year to build atomic bomb

JERUSALEM, 21 March — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu agreed with the United States on Wednesday that Iran needs roughly a year to build a nuclear weapon, but stressed that Israel's initial concerns were focused on uranium enrichment.

At a joint news conference with US President Barack Obama, Netanyahu reiterated that Israel did not want to see Iran build up its stockpiles of enriched uranium, regardless of whether the Islamic Republic had decided to go on and build an atomic bomb.

"If Iran decides to go for a nuclear weapon ... then it will only take them



US President Barack Obama (L) and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu view an Iron Dome missile defence battery at Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv on 20 March, 2013.—REUTERS

about a year," Netanyahu said, adding: "Iran gets to an immunity zone when they get through the enrichment process in our view."—Reuters

Afghanistan, NATO strike compromise on pullout plan

KABUL, 21 March—Afghan President Hamid Karzai struck a compromise with NATO forces on Wednesday, agreeing to a far more limited and gradual pullout from a key province than he had initially demanded, according to accounts from the NATO-led force.

The deal emerged 10 days after Karzai's March 10 deadline for all US special operations forces to leave Wardak Province, and NATO said the deal limited the initial pullout of NATO troops to Wardak's small, relatively restive District of Nerkh.

"The remainder of the province will transition in time," according to a statement of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

The Wardak issue, along a series of inflammatory remarks by Karzai deriding the United States and

other foreign forces, has strained already fraught ties between the president and Western allies as they move to wind down the unpopular, costly war.

Karzai had called for US special operations forces to leave the province after villagers accused them of torturing and killing civilians, an allegation US forces strongly deny.

ISAF's deputy commander, British Lieutenant General Nick Carter, clarified to Pentagon reporters that ISAF special forces and other troops would still operate in Wardak, at least for the time being.

"It's absolutely the case that they will still ... operate there," Carter said.

"I think that Nerkh will be treated slightly differently, as I've described. But, of course, what we're seeking to do in the coming months is to transition much of Afghanistan, and Wardak will



US Army LT Chelsey Darrow of the 3rd Platoon B Company 9th STB 31AD COP Dash Towp takes his position during a patrol as part of an overall security and disruption insurgency mission in Wardak Province, eastern Afghanistan on 17 Nov, 2011.—REUTERS

be part of that plan."

Carter, said Nerkh would be transitioned to "an Afghan solution" within the next few days. But he also cautioned that the details of that transition in Nerkh were subject to agreements that would be discussed at the Afghan national se-

curity council meeting on Sunday.

Nerkh is a known hiding place for Taliban and Hezb-i-Islami militants. The district comprises about 10 percent of Wardak and borders Kabul and Logar Provinces.

Reuters

Nuclear states divided on India joining export control group

VIENNA, 21 March—The United States and three other big powers this week argued for allowing nuclear-armed India into an atomic export control group, but China and several European states appeared doubtful about the move, diplomats said on Wednesday.

They said the divisions were in evidence during closed-door talks of the 46-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group on the sensitive issue of whether India could join and become the NSG's only member that is outside the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The United States, France, Britain and Russia were among those which backed membership for India — Asia's third-largest economy — while smaller European states such as Ireland, the Netherlands and Switzerland had reservations, the envoys said.

China stressed the need for equal treatment in South

Asia, an apparent reference to its ally Pakistan which is also outside the NPT and has also tested atomic bombs, they said. One diplomat said Japan also appeared lukewarm on the idea.

The tone of Monday's informal debate in Vienna suggested that the controversial issue will not be ready for a decision at the NSG's next annual plenary session, to be held in the Czech capital of Prague in June. NSG decisions are made by consensus.

"There are several countries in each camp. I'm not sure how it can be moved forward," another envoy said.

But another envoy said that while "a number of countries have continued doubts" they did not categorically rule out that India, which has yet to apply, could eventually become a member.

Reuters



A policeman walks on a beach near Kudankulam nuclear power project in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu on 13 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Russia's military-industrial complex needs fresh blood

Moscow, 21 March — Russia's military-industrial complex has exhausted its scientific and technical stocks and badly needs influx of skillful workforce, high-ranking officials said on Wednesday.

"I have to state that scientific and technical stocks have effectively exhausted today," Deputy Defence Minister Yuri Borisov told a conference of military-industrial complex.

Russia risked losing an opportunity of scientific-technical breakthrough in areas such as the creation of

supersonic devices, weapons based on new physical principles and weapons of cyber warfare, Borisov warned.

Speaking at the same conference, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin said the country's military-industrial complex suffered from high interests rates on loans.

"How can we develop the industry with 10-12 percent loans? It could only be done with (the rates) of 4-5 percent," Rogozin said.

He noted that Russia's military-industrial com-

plex badly needs skillful workforce, and called for a "brain import" of foreign talents.

"When it comes to brain import, we are ready to give them residency permits, work permits and even Russian citizenship," Rogozin said.

He reiterated Russia would not purchase ready-made military equipment abroad but would buy technologies, attract hardware developers and skillful workers.

According to Rogozin, the Russian army needs cut-

ting-edge automatized and robotic arms because the armed forces face severe shortage of personnel.

"This is about unmanned air, ground, sea, submarine systems," he said, adding that a Russian soldier armed with such an equipment must be capable to fight against five enemies. The Russian government has allocated 20 trillion rubles (about 666 billion US dollars) for the rearmament and modernization of its armed forces until 2020.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Climate changes keep Hudson Bay polar bears on land longer

BEIJING, 21 March—The polar bears of Hudson Bay, Canada, are arriving on land earlier in the summer and leaving later in the autumn in recent years due to changes in sea ice or their access to food.

This was shown in a new study presented in the *Journal of Animal Ecology* as quoted by media reports on Wednesday.

The study was conducted by a team, led by Seth Cherry, a graduate student in ecology at the University of Alberta, Canada. The researchers monitored the migration patterns of polar bears by using satellite-tracking data.



They fitted 109 female polar bear with tracking collars which were equipped with GPS transmitters that located the bears, so that the team could observe the bears' migration patterns.

"When we look at the migration patterns of the collared bears, it appears as though bears in recent years are arriving on shore earlier in

the summer and leaving later in the autumn," Cherry said. "These are precisely the kind of changes one would expect to see as a result of a warming climate."

"Keeping track of when polar bears move on and off the ice is an important aspect of monitoring the risks to the population associated with climate change," Cherry said.

"Climate-induced changes that cause sea ice to melt earlier, form later, or both, likely affect the overall health of polar bears in the area. Ultimately, for polar bears, it's survival of the fittest," added.—Xinhua

India successfully testfires submarine-launched version of BrahMos missile

NEW DELHI, 21 March—India successfully testfired its submarine-launched version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile for the first time on Wednesday in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of the southern port city of Visakhapatnam, a top official said.

"The submarine-launched version of BrahMos was successfully testfired from an underwater pontoon near Visakhapatnam in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh. This is the first testfiring of an underwater

supersonic cruise missile anywhere in the world and the missile travelled its complete range of over 290 km," Head of BrahMos A Sivathanu Pillai told the media. With the testfiring, India became the world's first country to have this capability. The country has already successfully testfired the ship and ground-launched versions of the missile for the Indian Navy and the Indian Army respectively.

"BrahMos missile is fully ready for fitment in submarines in vertical launch configuration which will make the platform one of the most powerful weapon platforms in the world," Pillai added.

A hypersonic version of the missile is currently under development with speed of 7 Mach to boost aerial fast strike capability. It is expected to be ready for testing by 2017, according to sources.

The BrahMos missile programme is a joint venture between India's state-owned Defence Research and Development Organisation and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya who have together formed BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited. The name BrahMos is a portmanteau formed from the names of two rivers, the Brahmaputra of India and the Moskva of Russia.—Xinhua

Politics, money overhang ambitious Lebanon telecom reforms

DUBAI, 21 March—Lebanon is embarking on an ambitious plan to bolster its telecommunications industry with a tender to run its two state-owned mobile telephone operators.

But as with many of the country's economic plans, politics and entrenched financial interests may get in the way.

The country wants to become a digital hub for the Middle East, selling excess bandwidth to other countries. It hopes a dynamic telecommunications sector will spur growth in other industries such as education, health and finance.

Given Lebanon's large number of entrepreneurial businessmen, and its history as a cultural cross-roads for the region, the idea makes sense.

But progress is likely to be limited by divisions among the country's many political factions and the government's reliance on telecommunications as a revenue source. "Lebanon is well placed with its

geographic location and an educated and multilingual population," said Kenechi Okeleke, an analyst at Business Monitor International in London.

"But the government's strict control over the sector makes it really difficult for private sector firms to enter, which will continue to hold back the market." Lebanon's telecommunications sector is largely in state hands, with the fixed network maintained by government-owned Ogero Telecom while the two mobile operators, Touch and Alfa, are owned by the state but currently managed by Kuwait's Zain and Egypt's OTMT. The government sets prices for all operators. Touch is the market leader, with a 53 percent share of Lebanon's mobile phone subscribers.

Zain took control of Touch in 2004 and OTMT of Alfa in 2009, and their management contracts have repeatedly been renewed since then, usually on an annual basis.

Reuters



A view shows the Alfa telecommunications building in Beirut on 19 March, 2013. Lebanon is embarking on an ambitious plan to bolster its telecommunications industry with a tender to run its two state-owned mobile telephone operators, Alfa and Touch.—REUTERS



People visit the 16th International Automobile Fair of Algiers held in Algiers, Algeria, on 19 March, 2013. Thousands of Algerian car fans rushed to the 16th International Automobile Fair of Algiers, which started on Tuesday in the Exhibition Palace in Algiers with the participation of 53 exhibitors representing more than 38 worldwide car brands.—XINHUA

Lenovo introduces ThinkPad Twist in India for Rs 71,000

WASHINGTON, 21 March—Lenovo has launched the ThinkPad Twist in India for Rs. 71,000. As per the company, this convertible can be used as a tablet or a laptop. ThinkPad Twist can also be quickly converted into a stand or tent mode, where the laptop becomes a media presenter.

The ThinkPad Twist comes with Windows 8 pre-loaded. The convertible device comes with up to 8GB DDR3 memory and can support up to 500GB of SSD with HDD performance booster. This device sports a 12.5-inch IPS multi-touch screen which according to Lenovo comes with anti-scratch and anti-smudge Gorilla glass.

For processor, Lenovo ThinkPad Twist can have up to Core i7-3517U processor. ThinkPad Twist is just 20 millimetres thin and weighs a mere 1.60 kgs. The other key features of the device are 2-seconds resume from

sleep and 30-days standby. It comes with Lenovo's chiclet keyboard.

Lenovo ThinkPad Twist will be available in mocha black colour at Think Exclusive Stores and multi-brand outlets across the country.

Applications such as Fruit Ninja, Evernote, AccuWeather, Skype, Amazon Kindle, BlueStacks come pre-installed on Lenovo ThinkPad Twist.

Lenovo is already offering hybrid devices that double up as laptops as well as tablets in India under its Idea Yoga series. The company had launched two models—IdeaPad Yoga 13 and IdeaPad Yoga 11—in December 2012.

Lenovo IdeaPad Yoga 13 features a 13.3-inch 1600x900 multi-touch display, runs on Windows 8 and costs Rs 84,290. While the Lenovo IdeaPad Yoga 11 is a Windows RT device that sports a 11.6-inch 1366x768

multi-touch display. This device is available for Rs. 61,790. Sony too is offering Sony VAIO Duo 11 device in India that costs Rs. 89,990. It comes with what Sony

VAIO Duo 11 features a backlit keyboard, is 17.85 mm thin and weighs 1.3 kilograms.

The device is powered by 3rd generation Intel Core i5-3317U 1.7GHz processor and runs on Windows 8. Other features include 4GB DDR3 SDRAM and 128GB flash drive. VAIO Duo 11 comes with built-in



Lenovo ThinkPad. The company had launched two models—IdeaPad Yoga 13 and IdeaPad Yoga 11—in December 2012.

terms as the 'Surf Slider' design, which helps the device to switch smoothly between Tablet and PC modes. It comes with 11.6-inch (29.4cm) screen with a resolution of 1920x1080.

4,960mAh cell battery that lasts for about 4.5 hours. In comparison to the Sony device, it seems Lenovo through its ThinkPad Twist is offering a more value for money proposition.—PTI

BUSINESS & HEALTH



10 foods to keep you healthy

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Apple | 6. Banana |
| 2. Fish | 7. Green Tea |
| 3. Garlic | 8. Soybean |
| 4. Strawberry | 9. Milk |
| 5. Carrot | 10. Red Pepper |

Xinhua

Economy of Germany, China increasingly interdependent

BERLIN, 21 March—The rapid growth of bilateral trade and the increasingly closer economic ties between Germany and China during the past 20 years has led the two countries' economic interdependence to an unprecedented level, a study showed on Tuesday.

The study, conducted by the research institute Prognos with the entrustment by the Bertelsmann Foundation, centered on a comprehensive analysis of German-Chinese trade relations.

"The Germany-made machinery products play a key role for China's industry, while China is the most important supplier of consumer goods to Germany,"

said Helmut Hauschild, director of the Germany and Asia Programme under the Bertelsmann Foundation.

"This high level of interdependence gives a strong impetus to the governments of both countries to make even greater efforts to forge closer cooperation to create the market's openness and equal condition of competition for both German and Chinese firms," said Hauschild.

According to the study, the Chinese industry has relied heavily on the import of German machinery.

The study noted that the Germany-China interdependence has reached such a high degree that the Chinese economy would

face difficulties if some of its strategically-needed machinery products from Germany fall in short supply, since many of the German machines are used in industries which account for a large proportion of China's production of exports. In the meanwhile, Germany counts more and more on the import of China-made textiles and clothing, as the market share of China's textile has climbed to over 31 percent by now, in comparison to mere 7 percent in 1992. Germany's dependence on China-made computers, laptops and other business items has also kept increasing drastically, with its share in Germany's market rocketing to current

in 2016 and up to 2.8 percent, and forecast that the country would escape recession this year. Delivering his Budget in the Commons, he said "we are, slowly but surely, fixing our country's economic problems." He said that he wanted to help "people who aspire to work hard and get on."

He vowed to work with the British people, who understood there were "no easy answers", to fix the economy. He is expected to delay or cancel a planned fuel duty rise and could scrap above inflation alcohol

tax rises. Britain has been struggling to recover from a steep slump in output caused by the 2008 financial

crisis, slipping into a second recession since then and now teetering on the verge of a third.—Xinhua



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, holds up his budget case for the cameras as he stands outside number 11 Downing Street, before delivering his budget to the House of Commons, in central London on 20 March, 2013.—REUTERS

tax rises. Britain has been struggling to recover from a steep slump in output caused by the 2008 financial

Health service hotline operational in 26 provinces

BEIJING, 21 March—A national health service hotline is providing services to over two thirds of China's provincial regions, according to the National Health and Family Planning Commission on Tuesday.

A commission statement said the hotline had received 3,449,000 calls as of the end of 2012. The public health service number, 12320, opened in 2006. There are 31 provincial regions in the mainland and 26 have access to the service hotline.

It handles various cases such as consulting and medical appointments, and reduces the difficulty in receiving medical treatment, according to the statement.

The hotline provides people information on health

regulations and public health knowledge. It also takes public complaints and tip-offs.

The statement said the hotline has been building a comprehensive service platform consisting of phone, website, text message, and microblog service.

The hotline opened two official microblog accounts on Chinese portals Sina.com and Tencent.com last year. They have sent about 4,000 postings and attracted more than two million followers by the end of February, according to the statement.

Improvements to the service will be made with the building of a national data collection and releasing system for health information.

Xinhua

China's solar panel maker giant declares bankruptcy

WUXI, 21 March—Leading solar panel maker Wuxi Suntech, a major subsidiary of the New York-listed Suntech Power based in east China's city of Wuxi, declared bankruptcy on Wednesday.

In accordance with China's Bankruptcy Law, The Wuxi City Intermediate People's Court on Wednesday approved Wuxi Suntech's bankruptcy and restructuring following a joint application issued by the company's nine creditor banks on Monday.

The company made no objection to the ruling.

Founded in 2001, Wuxi Suntech supplies for more than 95 percent of Suntech Power's products. As of February, Wuxi Suntech's credit balance for the local and foreign currencies of the creditor banks totaled 7.1 billion yuan (1.14 billion US dollars), a senior company manager said.

The banks said since the outstanding loans have been overdue and the company did not render a feasible repayment programme,



Photo taken on 17 March, 2013 shows a solar-panel-covered building at the Suntech Power headquarters in Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu Province. China's leading solar panel maker Suntech Power, a New York-listed private company based in Wuxi, declared bankruptcy on Wednesday.—XINHUA

bankruptcy will protect their legal interests and maintain social stability to the maximum extent based on market rules and law.

The banks also expect the company to seek a third party for strategic reorganization in order to revive the company, according to the manager.

As one of China's four largest solar module makers, Wuxi Suntech was founded in 2001 by Shi Zhengrong, a prominent solar power scientist. In 2005, Suntech Power Holdings Co, Ltd, or Suntech Power, was founded and listed in New York.

Xinhua

FedEx cuts forecast as air freight weakness hits profit

LOS ANGELES, 21 March, —FedEx Corp cut its full-year forecast after a worse-than-expected quarterly profit as customers shift from air express to slower but cheaper modes of international shipping.

Shares of the No 2 US package-delivery company fell 5 percent in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

FedEx's express unit, its biggest source of revenue, has

also been hit by overcapacity in the industry that has squeezed margins. Operating income in the express unit fell 66 percent.

FedEx said the express unit underperformed due to weakness in Asia and other international markets, where margin pressures arising from excess capacity more than offset increased volumes.

"We have a yield issue that exaggerated itself this quarter

over last quarter," Dave Bronczek, CEO of FedEx Express, said on a conference call with analysts.

FedEx plans to cut express capacity to and from Asia from 1 April and is looking at reducing its fleet by retiring more of its older, less-efficient aircraft.

The actions, along with cost cuts, will help the express unit perform better in the fourth quarter, Bronczek said.

"They have got to lower their costs because they are getting paid a lot less for the packages they are shipping," said BB&T Capital Markets analyst Kevin Sterling.

"It is hard for them to adjust quickly because we are talking about planes which cannot just be parked in the garage overnight," said Sterling, who doesn't expect margins to improve for a few quarters.

Reuters



Federal Express trucks head out for deliveries from a FedEx station in Los Angeles, California.—REUTERS

Syrian enemies demand inquiry into “chemical” attack

BEIRUT, 21 March—Both sides in Syria’s conflict on Wednesday demanded an international inquiry into a deadly attack they each cite as evidence that the other has used chemical weapons.

The deaths of 26 people in a rocket attack on a northern town on Tuesday have become the focus of a propaganda war between President Bashar al-Assad’s supporters and opponents, who accuse each other of firing a missile laden with chemicals.

The United States and Russia, which back opposing sides in Syria, took contrasting views of the strike on Khan al-Assal, near Aleppo, which, if confirmed, would be the first use of chemical weapons in the two-year-old conflict and could step up pressure for foreign military intervention.

Robert Ford, the US Ambassador to Damascus who left Syria more than a

year ago, said his government had no evidence so far to substantiate reports that chemical weapons munitions had been used in Syria on Tuesday.

“But I want to underline that we are looking very carefully at these reports,” he told a House of Representatives hearing.

Ford warned of unspecified consequences for Assad’s government if it were found to be using chemical weapons.

Washington, which says Assad must be removed from power, has so far shunned direct military intervention in Syria.

Russia initially backed the Syrian government’s version, issuing a statement on Tuesday, expressing extreme concern about “the use by the armed opposition of chemical weapons”.

But on Wednesday, Moscow’s line had softened. “There is no unequivocal



People injured in what the government said was a chemical weapons attack, breathe through oxygen masks as they are treated at a hospital in the Syrian city of Aleppo on 19 March, 2013.—REUTERS

evidence on this account yet,” Deputy Foreign Minister Gennady Gatilov said on Twitter.

Syria’s restrictions on independent media and foreign aid groups make it hard to verify what happened, but survivors interviewed in hospitals complained of breathing difficulties.

The opposition Syrian National Coalition said it wanted an international investigation into the alleged chemical attack in Khan al-Assal and on another in

Otaiba, a town near Damascus.

“The Coalition would like all parties and individuals involved in this reprehensible crime to be brought to justice,” it said in a statement.

Syria asked UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to set up an independent technical team “to investigate the use of chemical weapons by the terrorists in Khan al-Assal”, state TV reported.

Reuters

Kurdish rebel to call ceasefire in Turkey’s best peace hope

DIYARBAKIR, 21 March—Jailed Kurdish militant leader Abdullah Ocalan is set to call on his fighters to halt hostilities with Turkey on Thursday in a peace process which marks the best hope yet of ending a conflict that has killed 40,000 and handicapped the country for decades.

In the mainly Kurdish southeastern city of Diyarbakir, hundreds of thousands will gather at Newroz celebrations marking the Kurdish new year to hear what Ocalan has said will be a “historic call”.

His announcement will follow months of talks with Turkish intelligence officers and Kurdish politicians on the island prison in the Marmara Sea where he has been held since his capture by Turkish special forces in Kenya in 1999. “The people here will listen to whatever Abdullah Ocalan says,”

said Ensari Bingol, 42, tugging at his worry beads outside Diyarbakir’s 11th-century Great Mosque.

“It feels like a new day is dawning. This process is the best chance yet for peace ... But if it fails, things will get much worse than they were before.”

Ocalan’s statement could cement peace talks with Turkey that have been edging forward since October, possibly commanding his Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) guerrillas to withdraw to northern Iraq where most of its several thousand rebels are based.

Such moves would lift a huge burden off European Union candidate Turkey, fighting the PKK since 1984 in a war which has drained state coffers, stunted development of the mainly Kurdish southeast and scarred its human rights record.

Reuters

Israel treats four Syrians wounded in civil war

JERUSALEM, 21 March—Israeli soldiers gave medical treatment on Wednesday to four Syrians wounded in fighting within Syria near the ceasefire line on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, the army said.

It said two of them were transferred to an Israeli hospital for further care and two were returned to Syria.

It was the second time Israel has treated wounded Syrians. Last month seven Syrians received Israeli hospital treatment.

The Golan Heights, a strategic plateau captured by Israel from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war, has seen fighting on its eastern slopes between forces of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and rebels trying to topple him, with occasional fire straying into Israeli-held territory.

Israel and Syria are technically at war, and some anti-Assad rebels are Islamist militants hostile to the Jewish state.

Reuters

Asylum seekers file most claims in decade

GENEVA, 21 March—Nearly half a million people sought asylum in the developed world last year, a 10-year high, with the sharpest rise in requests from Syrians fleeing war and persecution, the United Nations said on Thursday.

In all, 479,300 asylum applications were lodged in 44 industrialized countries, a rise of 8 percent on the previous year, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said in its annual report, entitled Asylum Trends 2012.

“This is the highest annual total since 2003, continuing a trend of increases in every year but one since 2006,” it said.

Some 24,800 Syrian asylum seekers filed claims last year, triple the number

in 2011, making them the second biggest group after 36,600 Afghan applicants, the report said.

But most Syrians fleeing the two-year conflict have stayed in neighbouring countries, where 1.1 million Syrian refugees are registered, many hoping to return to their homeland, it said.

Fighting in Iraq, Pakistan and Somalia also sparked claims.

“Wars are driving more and more people to seek asylum,” Antonio Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said in a statement. “At a time of conflict, I urge countries to keep their borders open for people fleeing for their lives.” Despite heated debates and anti-foreigner sentiment in

some European countries, asylum levels are far lower than in the early 1990s, when conflicts raged in the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Great Lakes region of Africa. The peak remains 1992 when more than 800,000 claims were filed, the UNHCR says.

“Even if we have seen this increase of 8 percent compared to 2011, it’s nothing compared to the 1990s,” said Volker Turk, director of UNHCR’s division of international protection.

“It’s a bit of a tempest in a teapot type thing. Of course a rise in the industrialized world is nothing compared to what you see in the developing world and in areas affected directly by crisis,” Turk told a news briefing.

Europe again received the most asylum applications of all regions last year — 355,500 in 38 countries, up by nine percent over 2011, the UNHCR said. They included 297,600 claims made in the 27 member states of the European Union (EU).

For the first time since 2001, Germany had the most claims in Europe, 64,500, a 41 percent jump from the previous year, partly due to a rise in asylum seekers from the Balkans.—Reuters



Selahattin Demirtas, co-chairman of the pro-Kurdish Peace and Democracy Party (BDP), gestures during a rally to celebrate the spring festival of Newroz in Istanbul on 17 March, 2013.—REUTERS

West, Central African states to cooperate against pirates

COTONOU, 21 March—Nearly two dozen West and Central African nations have pledged to combat the growing threat of piracy and maritime crime in their coastal waters. The two regions border the oil-rich Gulf of Guinea, which is threatening to overtake the waters off Somalia as the world’s most dangerous seas for piracy.

Maritime attacks have become increasingly violent as criminal gangs, exploiting governments’ inability to police their coastlines, venture further afield from their traditional home waters off Nigeria. “The ministers are worried by the serious threats posed by piracy, armed robbery and other illegal maritime activities in the waters

of Central Africa and West Africa,” a statement released after the meeting of foreign and defense ministers in Benin late on Tuesday said.

The ministers called for governments to arrest and prosecute suspected pirates and seize any vessels believed to have been used in acts of piracy. The document also called upon ship owners to “take steps to protect against pirates”.

The agreement requires approval of regional heads of state. Ivory Coast recorded the first in a series of hijackings targeting tankers carrying refined petroleum products in October. The ships and their crews were all released but their cargoes were stolen.—Reuters



A Syrian refugee smokes during the visit of UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Antonio Guterres in Katermaya village in the Chouf mountains on 14 March, 2013.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Pilgrims may pay homage to religious edifices at Nay Pyi Taw Bodh Gaya

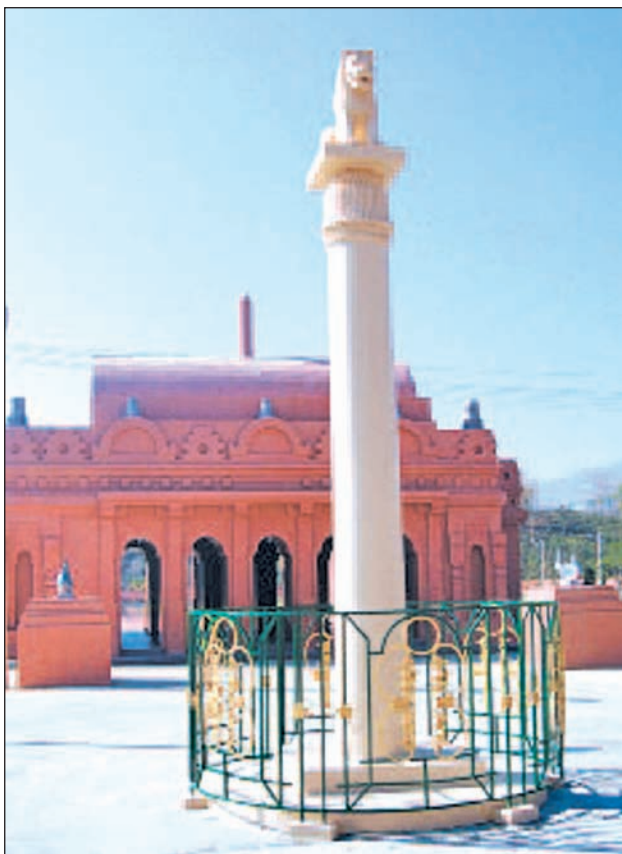
NAYPYITAW, 21 March—Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Council, ACE Company and Shwetaung Development Co started construction of Nay Pyi Taw Bodh Gaya on Udayaramsi Hill, five miles and six furlongs north to Khwanyo Flower Roundabout of Nay Pyi Taw Ottarathiri Township on 24 July 2011.

So far, the construction of the Bodh Gaya is nearing cent per cent completion. Pilgrims may pay visits to religious edifices similar to that of Bodh Gaya in India.

Sattasattaha venues and Maha Bodi Pagoda are of same sizes to that of Bodh Gaya in Gaya city of India where the Lord Buddha attained Enlightenment.

At present, men's hostels and women's hostels are under construction for convenient accommodation of pilgrims.

The wellwishers far and near to donate cash and



kind may contact U Kan Chun, (member of Nay Pyi Taw Council), Secretary of Special Development Project Supervisory Committee, Tel: 067-414202 and 067-414204.

Myanma Alinn

Cash donated to free clinic

YEKYI, 21 March—Deputy Head of Yekyi Township General Administration Department U

Zaw Zaw Oo and Khachaung Village Lower Division Clerk U Soe Aung on behalf of staff donated K 52600 to the free

clinic of Aung San Ward in Yekyi Township on 13 March. Officials accepted cash donations.—Myanma Alinn

Rural area of DaikU Township gets 4-inch tube-well

DAIKU, 21 March—As a gesture of hailing the 68th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Rural Region Development Department of DaikU Township built the 4-inch tube-well, water pump and water tank in Pyinmalwin Village of the township.

At the opening ceremony of these facilities, Township Administrator U Kyaw Swa Aung made a speech. Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Ko Ko Htay explained the matters related to the tube-well and maintenance for the well.

Junior Engineer-II U Thant Zin Oo reported on sinking the tube-well.

The Hluttaw representative, the township administrator and Daw Htay Htay Yi of GH (Golden

Hour) Company formally opened the tube-well. Also present on the occasion were township level officials, responsible persons of NGOs and rural people totalling over 200.—NLM



Border trade promoted

NAYPYITAW, 21 March—Myanmar is striving for development of its economy with added momentum. In its economic reforms, the country cooperates with international community and promote border trade with neighbouring countries, said an official of the Ministry of Trade.

"Relentless efforts are being made for promotion of

border trade year after year. More and more border trade camps have been opened. Rules and regulations of border trade have been relaxed for raising bilateral trade between neighbouring countries," he said.

At present, a total of 12 border trade camps have been opened. Of them, four border trade camps are located at the border

sharing with China, four at Thailand, two each at India and Bangladesh.

According to an official of the Ministry of Trade, Myanmar is raising two folds of border trade with neighbouring countries this year, compared with that of 2011-2012 fiscal year, and it will have great prospects in the future. In 2011-2012 fiscal year, Myanmar earned

Objectives of the 68th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2013

1. To uphold the national policy namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty
2. To play the leading role in the national politics by the Tatmadaw joining hands with all national races with Union Spirit and the true patriotism in line with the Constitution
3. To crush all destructive elements at home and abroad through the strength of State, People and Tatmadaw
4. To build up a strong, competent, modern, patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard the security and sovereignty of the nation

Cash donated for offering gold foils at Shwetaungsar Pagoda in Dawei

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—A ceremony to donate cash to the fund for construction of Shwetaungsar Pagoda in Dawei of Taninthayi Region was held in conjunction with the consecration of the pagoda on 13 March.

At the Dhammayon of the pagoda, families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) donated K 46.58 million, U Yan Win-Daw Lwin Win Wai of A-1 Construction K 113 million, Dr Naing Htut Aung-Dr Wai Wai Yin family K 90 million, U Aung Ko Win-Daw Nan Than Htwe of Kanbawza Bank Ltd K 50 million, U Zaw Zaw (Ayeya Myanmar Ltd) K 50 million, U Tun Myint Naing of Asia World Co Ltd K 50 million, U Hla Myo (Aungmyinthu Group of Companies) K 30 million, U Aung Myo Min Din (Adventure Myanmar Co Ltd) K 30 million, U Myint Lwin of Tamoonye family K 25 million, U Sai Tit Aung-Daw Nan Yon (Nawngton Construction) K 20 million, U Maung Naing-U Htay K 15 million, Dr Tun Min Latt-Dr



Win Min Soe family (Kyei Nilar Co) K 13.6 million, U Ohn Kyaw (Max Myanmar Construction Co) K 10 million, U John Nathan (KT Development Co Ltd) K 10 million, U Kyaw Sein (Jewellery Luck Co Ltd & Nature Link Travel and Tour Co Ltd) K 10 million, and U Maung Maung Ohn-Daw Nilar Myint (Myint Myat Kyaw Co) K 9 million.

Moreover, Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe and family K 5 million, U Hla Than (Pyae Phyo Tun Co) K 5 million, U Nay Aung-Daw Khin Moe Nyunt (United Amara Bank) K 30 million, UMEHL and associated companies

K 10 million, Myanmar Economic Corporation and associated companies K 10.2 million, U Tha Htay-Daw Kyi Khin (Original Group Construction Co) K 10 million, U Aung Myo Hein-Daw Ni Ni Tin Tun (Authentic Construction Co) K 10 million, U Kyaw Win (Shwe Than Lwin Co) K 3 million, and Captain Soe Maung Maung K 500,000.

The donations amounted to K 655.88 million. Those wishing to make donations may dial 059-21160 and 0949850187 of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, 059-23556 and 09-8760155 of the secretary of Taninthayi Region Government.

Myanma Alinn

Pre-primary students under care at Khatcho Village of Waingmaw Tsp

WAINGMAW, 21 March—Khatcho Village

US\$ 3.046 billion from border trade. In 2010-2011 fiscal year, the country fetched US\$ 1.9 billion through border trade.

The commodities exported by Myanmar were rice, forest products, fishery products, minerals, maize, groundnut and rubber. China is border trade partner of Myanmar with the largest trade volume.

Myanma Alinn

in Waingmaw Township of Kachin State is constituted with 1759 houses and it is home to 10217 population.

The village has one pre-primary school established by Maternal and Child Welfare Association, admitting 20 students under one teacher.

"At our school, the teacher washes legs and hands of children at first. The food carriers of children are kept hygienically. Then, she prepares foods for children at the lunch time,"

said a local of Khatcho Village.

The village has the majority of Shan nations, located near Ayeyawady River.

"I wash children's legs and hands before entering the classrooms daily. Only when their health is in good condition, will their education standard rise step by step. So, I always focus on their health daily," said teacher Daw Khin Thida Pyone of the school.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 22 March, 2013

Make our food safe

Some cases of food poisoning broke out in Mandalay and other areas recently causing a number of people fall ill from the poisoning.

Food poisoning is caused by eating organisms or toxins present in food or drinks. Some common foods which can cause food poisoning if proper care is not taken are raw poultry, unpasteurized milk, red meat, poisonous mushrooms, pesticides on fruits and vegetables, egg and raw egg products, raw meat and water.

The symptoms develop within one hour or they may show up within 12-48 hours. It lasts for more than two days but, depending on its seriousness it may take around a week to recover.

You may have bouts of vomiting, abdominal cramps and pain, diarrhea and similar other pains. If it is very serious you may have chills and fever, bloody stools, dehydration, muscle aches and weakness.

Pesticide, chemicals, heavy metals, parasites, fungi, viruses and bacteria are some of the common causes for food poisoning. Bacteria are a major culprit, due to their capacity to multiply. To prevent the contamination we should have a clean kitchen including the storage and vessels, handle raw and cooked food with proper precautions, cook food to the maximum temperature to avoid presence of bacteria and heat canned foods before tasting. You can stop this outbreak either by minimizing the headcount of bacteria, preventing their growth, killing bacteria with proper measures of cooking.

Home Remedies for Food Poisoning: Avoid eating when suffering with food poisoning. Drink good amount of fluids except milk products, caffeine and carbonated products. Avoid sugary fluids and drink more of electrolyte. Eat plain bread, as it soaks the poison to provide relief. Have 1/4 cup of activated charcoal powder with a glass of water to subside the symptoms. If it doesn't work within the first half-hour continue till you get complete relief. Consume garlic as it detoxifies the intestine and destroys the bacteria in lower digestive tract. After your meals you can drink a cup of ginger tea for good digestion, heartburn and nausea. Mix three drops of garlic oil in 1/2 cup soya oil. Rub this mixture after your meals on the stomach to provide relief. Mix 3-4 drops of mint essence in water and drink it every hour. You can also drink jaljeera (a mixture of asafetida, cumin, salt and water) 2-3 times a day. Make a mixture by mixing one tablespoon lemon juice or cider vinegar in a cup of hot water. Drink it before your meals to prevent any acidic problems.

To avoid the food-born illness and to save lives, we all are obliged to disseminate knowledge on preventive measures to each other and to follow the remedies.

Announcing the program...

(from page 1)

- (b) announcing daily foreign exchange rate which is based on demand and supply of the market.
- (c) As to licence-holders who are allowed to run foreign exchange business
 - (1) allowing them to partake in money market among banks
 - (2) allowing them to buy and sell foreign currency with the public in accord with prescribed rules and regulations.
 - (3) allowing them to play role of medium in making payment in foreign currency and money transfer, except for handing over.
 - (4) allowing them to buy and sell foreign currency through transfer of accounts
- (d) Respective exchange counters under licence are allowed to sell and buy up to 10,000 USD and euros and Singapore dollars equivalent to US\$ 10,000.
5. In accord with changes and progress in foreign exchange management matters thanks to implementations shown in paragraph 4, the Central Bank of Myanmar will conduct the exchange of FEC during the period of 90 days from 1-4-2013 to 30-6-2013 in accord with the following program as no more FEC is needed.
 - (a) FEC holders can exchange FEC in cash from foreign currency exchangers under licence.
 - (b) Licensed foreign currency exchangers can carry out the following points in accord with the wish of FEC holders.

NATIONAL



Vice-President U Nyan Tun and party seen at the dinner hosted by the Vice-President of Vietnam.—MNA

Myanmar, Vietnam agreed...

(from page 16)

taking ASEAN Chair in 2014 and hosting XXVII SEA Games in 2013.

The Myanmar Vice-President invited investments from Vietnamese companies.

The two agreed closer cooperation between the two parliaments and promotion of Myanmar-Vietnam-Laos-Cambodia tourism.

The Myanmar Vice-President visited Monument

of National Heroes and martyrs and Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum on 19 March.

He then met Vietnamese businessmen making investments in Myanmar at BIDV Tower in Hanoi at which he elaborated on measures for SME

development and potentials of special economic zones under construction in Myanmar.

He then visited Temple of Literature, the first national prestigious seat of education in Vietnam, and Viettel Co.

MNA

Smart Myanmar for SME development

YANGON, 21 March—Smart Myanmar Project was launched at UMFCI Office here yesterday, a step forward for Myanmar SMEs to boost their international competitiveness.

The three-year project is said to be designed to improve performance, and production technologies of SMEs, helping them to penetrate into the foreign markets.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe said the project would do a lot for CMP and SMEs in Myanmar, adding that it would contribute to environmental conservation

and sustainable production technologies.

The chief minister also spoke of the need to

have a good percentage of SME in reform process of Myanmar. Germany, Britain, the Netherlands

and the Philippines are reported to assist the project as partner organizations.

MNA



Launching Conference of Smart Myanmar Project in progress.—MNA

- (1) putting the money into the US dollar account of the bank concerned where the FEC exchanger opened his account.
- (2) Opening a new foreign currency account under the name of FEC exchangers at the bank concerned.
- (3) Putting the money into the Kyat accounts of the FEC exchanger after the exchanged money is calculated at buying price rate of foreign exchange counter based on the daily foreign exchange rate issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar.
- (4) Opening a new account for the FEC holder in Kyats at the bank concerned or give cash in Kyats.
- (c) The foreign currency exchangers can hand over the FEC during and after the FEC exchange period.
- (d) FEC is no more allowed to use as of 1-7-2013 when the initial FEC exchange period terminates.
- (e) The period shall be extended to 31-3-2014 as a special matter for those who fail to exchange during the initial exchange period. To do so, those wishing to exchange are to submit the following requirements at the Central Bank of Myanmar, State-owned and private banks holding money exchanger license.
 - (1) personal information about FEC holder
 - (2) letter giving valid reason why he/she failed to exchange during the initial exchange period from 1-4-2013 to 30-6-2013.
6. Exchange of FEC is allowed only during the above-mentioned two periods and latecomers shall be denied, announced the Central Bank of Myanmar.

NATIONAL

Sixth regular Pyidaungsu Hluttaw...

(from page 16)
and facilities of region/state level personalities.

Eight bills were sent to the President to seek his approval. Among them are 2013 Myanmar citizens' investment bill, minimum wage bill, 2013-2014 FY national planning bill and 2013 FY Union budget bill.

The session also

approved Myanmar to sign Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1959 and to take out ODA loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency. Another significant approval is termination of the use of FEC as financial medium.

The constitutional tribunal was also reconstituted with new members.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw would not be summoned until 25 June, 2013 except on certain conditions.

U Khin Maung Shwe of Tamu Constituency shares his view that the sixth regular Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session is of "exceptionally beneficial" to the nation.—MNA

Agreement on action plans on community on air initiative signed

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—An agreement on action plans on community on air initiative among Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Health, FM Radio Stations and UNICEF was signed at Kumudra Hotel, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for

Health Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay and Deputy Minister for Information U Paik Htwe made opening speeches.

Afterwards, Mr. Bertrand Bainvel, Representative of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), extended greetings.

Director-General

Dr Min Than Nyunt of the Health Department, Director-General U Tint Swe of MRTV and the UNICEF residence representative and responsible persons from Mandalay FM, Pyinsawady FM, Padamy FM, Cherry FM and Bagan FM signed the agreement.

MNA



Agreement on action plans on community on air initiative signed among Myanmar Radio and Television under Ministry of Information, Ministry of Health, FM Radio Stations and UNICEF.—MNA

56th Session of the UN Commission on narcotic drugs held in Vienna

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun attended the 56th session of the UN Commission on narcotic drugs taken place at Vienna International Centre in Austria from 11 to 15 March.

On the occasion, the deputy minister briefed those present about international assistance for reducing poppy plantations and eradication of narcotic drugs, and efforts being made to eliminate narcotic drugs in the country.

The session was attended by a total of

1225 representatives from 123 countries and 79 international organizations.

Next, the deputy minister and party discussed close cooperation in eliminating narcotic drugs with Mr. William R. Brownfield, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of International Narcotics.

They then met with Additional Secretary of the Department of Revenue of India Mrs. Rashmi Verma. The meeting focused on prohibition against illegal trade of chemicals used in making drugs and household drugs made of pseudoephedrine.

The delegation held

a discussion with Mr. David Stuard, Australian Permanent Representative to the UN, about cooperation eradicating narcotic drugs.

They also met with the representatives from China National Drugs Control Commission.—MNA

Meiktila placed under curfew...

(from page 16)

including U Tun Tun Oo, owner of the gold shop and has taken action against them under criminal law 294/325/427/114.

Around 1 pm, a group that was dissatisfied with dispute gathered near the shop and some destroyed six shops, one religious building near the market and four



Vice-President U Nyan Tun and leaders of Viettel pose for documentary photo. (News on page 16)—MNA

Union Ministers discuss cooperation in respective sectors in Australia

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—On arrival at the Commonwealth of Australia, the Union Ministers who accompanied the President discussed the matters related to cooperation in respective sectors.

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi held talks with Minister for Immigration and Citizenship Mr Brenden O Conner of Australia at Australian Parliament House in Canberra at 4.10 pm on 18 March. They had a cordial discussion on cooperation in immigration between the two countries. A Myanmar delegation comprising Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Ko Ko Oo and an Australian delegation comprising Ezekiel Selamon of Allens Link Laters Legal firm, Assistant Professor Michael Ford, Assistant Professor Nigel Finch and experts held a meeting drawing of mine law and cooperation in education sector at the office of the firm on 19 March.

Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung

explained Royalty Moden and Production Sharing Model of mine law and held discussion on assistance to human resources development and Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw Foreign Investment Law and bylaws.

Australia will provide technical assistance to drawing of mine law and arrange to send technical aids and technicians with the use of \$ 20 million funded by Aus Aid. The Union Mines Minister will pay a visit to Australia in May 2013 and carry out agriculture, environmental conservation, medicine, social science and public management in cooperation with University of Sydney and private

partnership. Aus Aid will cooperate with Ministries of Mines, Education, and Science and Technology under the arrangement of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development that will compile the list of scholars under Colombo Plan.

On their arrival at Sydney International Airport yesterday, Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint and Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi heard reports on the functions of the airport by officials and they held talks on further bilateral cooperation with officials.—MNA

Tiger Myanmar Open Golf C'ship on third round

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2013 continued for the third round at Danyingon Golf Club in Insein Township today.

Myo Win Aung, selected golfer of Myanmar team, led the championship by firing two-under-per-214 on three-day aggregate, followed by Thailand's

Tawan Phongphun and Danthai Boonma 216 each in the second position and Singapore's Nicklaus Chiam in the third.

Defending champion Thein Naing Soe stood at the 7th position with 220 strokes.

The final and fourth round of the championship continues at the same venue tomorrow.

NLM

motorcycles.

The two different groups destroyed and set fire buildings, shops and motorcycles in return until night.

During the riot between the two groups, the gold shop, a religious building and one jeep car, two tri-cycled vehicles and one motorcycle, some shops

and one building near Taw Win Nann junction, one building of township education office, some shops and buildings in Yan Myo Aung Ward, some buildings in South Pyitharyar Ward and some buildings and one bicycle in Yadana Mann Aung Ward were destroyed.

According to the news report up to 1 pm today, the riot left five dead—one monk, three men

and one woman—and 39 wounded. The injured were hospitalized in Meiktila hospital.

Meiktila Township administrator has declared the curfew on 14 wards in Meiktila as from 8 pm yesterday. The authority declared that effective action would be taken against those who led the riots and disrupted the community peace.—MNA



Russian Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Alexander Zhukov (L) receives an interview with Xinhua News Agency in Moscow, Russia, on 5 March, 2013, ahead of Chinese President Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to Russia.—XINHUA

UN Security Council to discuss CAR at France's request

PARIS, 21 March—The United Nations Security Council will meet on Wednesday to discuss France's concerns about a fragile ceasefire in the Central African Republic, the French foreign ministry said.

Rebels in the former French colony detained five ministers in the government earlier this week and threatened to break the January ceasefire unless prisoners were freed and other demands met.

The insurgents came close to capturing the capital, Bangui, and overthrow-

ing President Francois Bozize late last year before accepting the peace deal under which some of their leaders joined the central government.

But increasingly bitter rhetoric from both sides is threatening to pitch the mineral-rich but impoverished, landlocked country back into conflict.

"France remains concerned by the evolution of the situation in the Central African Republic," Foreign Ministry spokesman Philippe Lalliot said in a daily briefing. "At our request, the UN Security

Council will hold consultations today on the situation in CAR."

Paris increased its troops in CAR to 600 in December to protect its citizens.

The United States said on Sunday it was concerned about CAR's worsening security and urged all sides to implement the ceasefire. Lalliot echoed those calls.

"We are pushing all parties to refrain from all military options which would only worsen the security and humanitarian situation in CAR," he said.

Reuters

Egypt to ration subsidized butane gas, bread through smart cards

CAIRO, 21 March—Egyptian Minister of Supplies and Internal Trade said the government will draw up a plan to ration subsidized butane gas and bread through electronic smart cards, state-run MENA news agency reported on Tuesday. "The new plan will be implemented in two months," Bassem Ouda, the supplies minister, was quoted as saying.

He added the new system will first take effect in several cities, including Port Fouad and Port Said. The government's move came amid protests of bakery owners against soaring flour prices induced by a previous change of the subsidy policy. The Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade recently stopped subsidizing flour and demanded designated bakeries hand in bread in exchange for flour supplies by the government, as a new way to provide cheap staple food for the poor.—Xinhua



A firefighter tries to extinguish a fire at Petacon Hill's dump in Panama City, capital of Panama, on 19 March, 2013.—XINHUA

Four wounded in blast at gunpowder factory in Ankara

ANKARA, 21 March—Four people were wounded in an explosion that took place at a gunpowder factory in the Turkish capital of Ankara on Wednesday, Turkish media reported.

The injured, two of them in critical condition, were moved to hospitals

for receiving medical treatment, the report said.

According to the report, there was a fire following the explosion and then it was extinguished by firefighters.

The cause of the blast is still unknown, the report added.—Xinhua

Sunk Nigerian boat was carrying trafficked migrants

CALABAR, 21 March—A boat that sank off the Nigerian coast with up to 166 people on board, killing at least 45, was carrying illegal immigrants being trafficked to Gabon, survivors interviewed by Reuters said on Wednesday.

Nigerian authorities were still searching for survivors from a wooden boat that sank on Friday some 40 nautical miles offshore on its way from Oron, in Cross Rivers state, to Gabon.

Vincent Aquah, Director of the Cross Rivers State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), told a news conference that a rescue operation had recovered 27 people so far.

He said only nine bodies had been fished out, although a doctor at a local mortuary told Reuters on Tuesday there had been 45 bodies brought in from the accident.

Survivor Kive Sani, 27, from Togo, said he had paid money to a Nigerian "master" to get him a good job in Gabon. Part of his agreement was that he give the master a portion of his wages for an indefinite pe-

riod.

"A huge wave swept onto the boat and knocked out the engine, then everything started sinking," he said.

He survived by clinging to an empty gas cylinder for nearly two days, he said.

Most poor West Africans who risk their lives each year to seek a better life head for Europe, usually via Spain's Canary Islands. But Gabon's oil-funded relative prosperity has also made it a favourite destination.

In July 2008, the bodies of 37 suspected illegal migrants were found dead on the seafront of Gabon's capital Libreville, after a boat capsized taking the same Nigeria to Gabon route.

With investment from former colonial ruler France, Gabon was one of the first sub-Saharan African countries to exploit its crude oil reserves, which have made its 1.5 million people among the continent's richest on a per capita basis.

Reuters



Afausat, a Benin citizen and a survivor on the boat that capsized off the coast, rests at the Bakor Medical Centre after spending 42 hours in the water, in Calabar on 20 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Police officer escapes assassination in southeast Yemen

ADEN, 21 March—A senior police officer escaped an assassination attempt in Yemen's southeastern Province of Hadramout on Wednesday night, a government official told Xinhua.

The police officer survived an assassination attempt when two masked gunmen riding motorbikes fired at his car in Hadramout Province, the local government official said on condition of anonymity.

"Masked assailants with automatic rifles target-

ed the vehicle carrying officer Hamood al-Khader while he was heading to the criminal police headquarters in Tarim city," the government source said.

"However, the targeted officer escaped the armed attack safely and unhurt," he added. The police authorities were searching for the attackers, but so far no one had been arrested, according to the official.

Yemeni security services have repeatedly blamed militants of the Yemen-based al-Qaeda off-

shoot for a series of grenade attacks, assassinations and explosions, mostly in the country's southern regions.

In January 2009, al-Qaeda affiliates in Saudi Arabia and Yemen officially merged and formed al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

The group, mainly entrenching itself in Yemen's southern Provinces of Abyan and Shabwa, is on the terrorist list of the United States, which considers it as an increasing threat to its national security.—Xinhua

Gunmen kidnap leader of Nigeria's opposition party, demand 189,000 USD as ransom

LAGOS, 21 March—Gunmen in southeastern state of Anambra on late Tuesday kidnapped a leader of the opposition Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) party and immediately demanded a ransom of approximately 189,000 US dollars (30 million naira), a terse statement by the political party said on Wednesday.

The statement, signed by Lai Mohammed, the party's spokesperson, said

Chudi Nwike, a vice-chairman of the ACN in Nigeria's southeast region was kidnapped by unspecified number of gunmen who contacted the victim's family to announce his abduction.

"We appeal to the security agencies to do everything within their power to ensure the safe release of Nwike, while assuring his family of our prayers and support at this very difficult time," the statement

said. It added that members of the political party would do their best possible to make sure the abductee regains his freedom unhurt.

Nigeria is one of the countries in the world where kidnapping, which is a lucrative criminal enterprise worth millions of dollars a year, frequently occurs, becoming everyone's nightmare as people are being abducted even as they go about their businesses.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

Mongolia holds water-saving exhibition to raise awareness

ULANBATOR, 21 March—An exhibition showcasing Mongolia's advanced water-saving technologies and products opened here on Wednesday to observe World Water Day, which falls on Friday.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Minister for Nature, Environment and Green Development Sanjaasuren Oyun said Mongolia was facing serious land desertification and water shortage, a phenomenon now threatening national security.

The exhibition aimed to promote the use of water-efficient products and raise public awareness of the need for a water-saving society, she said. The three-day event also features a series of seminars on water conservation.

In recent years, water scarcity has increasingly become a bottleneck to the development of Mongolia, where land desertification is expanding at an alarming rate, especially in its mineral-rich southern Gobi area.

Xinhua

Indonesian, Singapore FMs to meet to push for Timor Leste's membership in ASEAN

JAKARTA, 21 March—Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa said on Wednesday that he will meet with Singaporean counterpart K Shanmugam next week to discuss the way to push for the membership of Timor Leste in ASEAN, media reported.

Natalegawa made the statement after meeting with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Timor Leste Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao at the State Palace. "On next Thursday I will visit Singapore, one of the points to be discussed with Singaporean foreign minister is this issue (the membership)," Natalegawa said. The minister reaffirmed that Indonesia fully supports the Timor Leste membership, as it is expected to boost stability in the region.

"It is clear that the future of Southeast Asia is not going to be positive, prosperous and stable should Timor Leste not be part of big family

of ASEAN. Therefore Indonesia keeps pushing membership of Timor Leste in ASEAN," said Natalegawa.

To meet the goal, Indonesia has given assistance in the form of capacity building to Timor Leste to prepare the country to the membership, he said, adding a consensus is required among all ASEAN member countries to support the new membership in ASEAN.

President Yudhoyono and Prime Minister Xanana discussed in their talks the ways to settle border areas and intention to step up bilateral ties to a higher level, according to the minister.

Indonesia and Timor Leste share the Sumbawa island. The new nation had been for 24 years under Indonesia's rule before its independence in May 2002.

Xanana's visit to Jakarta also includes attending the Jakarta International Defence Dialogue 2013, said Natalegawa.—Xinhua



File photo taken on 28 Feb, 2012 shows Russians visiting a shop of a Chinese clothing brand at the Greenwood International Trade Centre in Moscow, Russia. The Greenwood International Trade Centre, a 350-million-US-dollar program financed by China Chengtong Development Group, started operation in Moscow in Sep 2011. The Greenwood covers an area of 200,000 square metres, with a total construction area of 132,600 square meters. The trade center, the largest Chinese investment project in the field of commerce in Russia, serves as a platform for Chinese products to enter the Russian market.—XINHUA



Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (R) talks with visiting former British Prime Minister Tony Blair in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 20 March, 2013.

XINHUA

Philippines urges UN to ensure safety of peacekeepers in Syria

MANILA, 21 March—The Philippine government has asked the United Nations (UN) Security Council to "exert all efforts" to ensure the safety and security of all peacekeepers in Syria following the recent abduction and detention of 21 Filipinos in the Golan Heights.

In a statement released on Wednesday, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said that Ambassador Libran Cabactulan, the Philippine Permanent Representative to the United Nations, sent a letter to the Security Council expressing the Phil-

ippine government's "grave concern" over the incident.

According to DFA, Cabactulan called on the council to exert all efforts and use its influence on all parties of the conflict in Syria to "ensure the freedom of movement and the safety and security of all UN Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF) personnel consistent with obligations and commitments under the international law."

The ambassador also asked the UN body to undertake efforts to ensure that similar incidents are avoided in the future, and

to cooperate with UNDOF in its operations to ensure that the Mission is able to fulfill its mandate. "We are hopeful that this call of the Philippines—redounding as it does to the benefit of all troop contributing countries and to the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions—will be received positively and acted on by the Security Council," Cabactulan said.

21 Filipino peacekeepers were seized by Syrian rebels on 6 March. After four days of negotiations, they were released by the rebels.

Xinhua

Indonesia urges Asia Pacific countries to boost strategic trust

JAKARTA, 21 March—Asia Pacific countries should make efforts to boost strategic trust in a bid to maintain the regional stability and peace which are being challenged by territorial disputes, Indonesian president said here on Wednesday.

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono made the remarks while addressing the opening ceremony of the third Jakarta International Defense Dialogue, an international forum on how to promote intergovernmental cooperation to meet common threats and challenges.

Yudhoyono said the most pressing challenges in Asia Pacific region are to deal with territorial and jurisdictional disputes which are at the core of flash points. "Our main challenge in promoting the regional security is how to build strategic trust among countries in our region," he said.—Xinhua

Cambodia, Japan see new step in defence cooperation

KOMPONG SPEU, (Cambodia), 21 March—Cambodia and Japan have seen a new phase in defence cooperation, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tea Banh said on Wednesday.

His remarks were made after Japan sent its military experts to train 15 Cambodian peacekeeping forces for the first time. The two-month course was concluded on Wednesday.

"Bilateral tie between the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and Self-Defence Force of Japan has moved a new step forward thanks to this Japan-backed training course," he said during the closing ceremony at the Institute for Peacekeeping Forces, Mine and Explosive Remnants of War Clearance, which was also attended by Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia Kumamaru Yuji.

"This project is a new beginning of cooperation within the area of peace. Even it is small, it is of great significance with the hope for enlarging and

with the most appropriate manner responding to the United Nations standards for peacekeeping," he said.

Tea Banh said the presence of Japanese military lecturers in Cambodia showed the mutual cooperation and friendship with other lecturers that Cambodia used to have like China, France, India and the United States.

"This will really help enhance the capacity of the Cambodian armed forces for contributing to the regional and international work on the area of peacekeeping operations," he added.

Lt Gen Sem Sovanny, general director of the National Centre for Peacekeeping Force, Mine and Explosive Remnants of War Clearance, said that since 2006 to date, the country has trained 8,030 soldiers for UN peacekeeping missions, and has sent 1,450 troops to Sudan, South Sudan, Chad, Central Africa, Lebanon and Syria for humanitarian and demining operations.

Xinhua



A collapsed shed is seen in Daoxian County, central China's Hunan Province, on 20 March, 2013. Three people were killed and 52 others were injured by a tornado that struck the county before dawn on Wednesday. The local meteorological observatory said the wind speed of the tornado reached 30.7 meters per second, a record for the observatory.—XINHUA

ANA plane makes emergency landing in Naha, Japan

TOKYO, 21 March—A plane operated by Japan's airline All Nippon Airways (ANA) on Wednesday made an emergency landing in Naha airport in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture due to pressure adjusting device failure, local media reported.

The ANA Boeing 737 plane was from Fukuoka to Naha and the incident took place at around 9 am as the pressure inside the cabin dramatically plunged in a height of 11,000 metres, according to Japan's Kyodo News

Agency.

The jet dipped to about 3,000 metres to keep the pressure stable and made the emergency landing about one hour later in Naha airport, Kyodo said.

A total of 108 people, including six crew members, were on board and no one was injured in the accident, said the report, adding some passengers suffered pain inside their ears.

The incident also led to cancellation of two flights in the Naha Airport.—Xinhua

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Myanmar Reg. No. 4/1365/2013 (8 February 2013)

In respect of "Vibratory rammers [machines]; concrete cutters [machines]; vibratory walk-behind rollers [machines]; walk-behind trowels [machines]; vibratory plate compactors [machines]; vibratory reversible plate compactors [machines]; power trowels; reinforcing bar cutters [machines]; reinforcing bar bending machines; concrete scarifiers [machines]; concrete vibrator [machines]; submersible pumps; 360 degrees turntable being a part of engine to be affixed to concrete vibrators and submersible pumps; grinders [machines]; handling apparatus for loading and unloading; excavators; gas breakers being gas cutting machines; electric breakers being machines for concrete, earth, ice and rock breaking; hydraulic breakers for concrete, earth, ice and rock breaking; pneumatic concrete, earth, ice and rock breakers; construction equipment; construction machines; construction machines and equipment for building and road construction industries; ride-on trowels [machines]; ride-on rollers [machines]" in **Class 7**; and "Tower lights" in **Class 11**.

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For **UNI-CORP (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD**
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd

#1508-1509, 15th fl, Sakura Tower, Kyauktada Tsp., Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 22 March 2013 utm@kcyangon.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MORNING SKY VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MORNING SKY VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(4) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA NET

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (883)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (883) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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ELLIPTA

(Reg. No. IV/12278/2012)

in respect of - Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for the treatment and alleviation of respiratory ailments; and inhalers filled with pharmaceutical preparations for the treatment and alleviation of respiratory disorders"

Class 10: "Medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, namely, inhalers, and structural parts and fittings therefor"

RELVAR

(Reg. No. IV/12279/2012)

in respect of - Class 5: "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances all for the prevention, treatment and/or alleviation of respiratory diseases and disorders"

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(Reg. No. IV/12280/2012)

in respect of - Class 5: "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances"

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Thein Aung B.Sc./R.L.D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666
Yangon. 22 March 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

SANOFI PASTEUR, a Company incorporated in France, of 2, avenue Pont Pasteur, 69007 LYON, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

VerorabVax

Reg. No. 2583/2012

in respect of "Int'l Class 05: Pharmaceutical products; vaccines".

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for **SANOFI PASTEUR**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 22 March 2013

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 26th March (Tuesday) 2013, Full Moon of Tabauing, 27th March (Wednesday) 2013, Armed Forces day, being public holiday Under the Negotiable Instruments Act. Central Bank of Myanmar

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Vacancy Announcement - 008/UNDP HR/2013

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking applications from dynamic and highly motivated Myanmar nationals for the following vacancy with UNDP, Yangon, Myanmar.

Functional Title	: National Project Manager - Pillar II
Grade	: NO-B
Type of contract	: Fixed Term
Duty Station	: Yangon, Myanmar

UNDP Myanmar has developed a new programme for 2013-15 with the aim to promoting local governance, growth and sustainable development with the emphasis on rights-based, gender sensitive, inclusive governance and equity. This goal will be pursued through three complementary Pillars, among which Pillar II will focus on climate change, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction. The post being advertised is under Pillar II that focuses on strengthening capacities at local, regional and national level to manage and utilize natural resources in sustainable way. Focus will also be on enhancing resilience and adaptive capacity to long-term climate change including variability impacts and to reduce the associated risk of natural disasters.

Competencies Required for the job: Demonstrates integrity by modelling the UN's values and ethical standards. Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP. Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability. Treats all people fairly without favouritism
Qualifications: Post graduate degree in environment-related field of expertise, including agriculture, forestry or natural resources management and related fields. Minimum 2 years of experience in the sector, including rural/community development initiatives. Fluency in both spoken and written English an absolute requirement.

Candidates should clearly indicate the post title in their application, and should submit the application with complete UNDP Personal History Form - P-11 Form. Detailed Terms of References are posted on the bulletin board at No.6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Applications should be addressed to **Deputy Resident Representative (Operations) Attention: Human Resources Unit, No.6 Natmauk Road, UNDP, Yangon** or apply on-line through application.mm@undp.org.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer. UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Organization has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interview(s). UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised posts. **Closing Date: 5 April 2013**

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Reg. No. 4/12584/2012
(5 November 2012)

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For **Toka Ink International (Hong Kong) Limited**,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd
#1508-1509, Sakura Tower,
Kyauktada T/p, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Date: 22 March 2013

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (331)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (331) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Dubai art festival begins with focus on West Africa

DUBAI, 21 March—The seventh Art Dubai, one of the Middle East's biggest contemporary art events, started Wednesday, with a special focus on the colorful artworks from West African countries.

The four-day Art Dubai, with the participation of 75 galleries from 30 countries, is a series of ex-

hibitions of art, related discussions and art tours.

This year's event provides West African countries with the opportunity to present their works, compared to previous ones over the past two years which mainly focused on oriental creativity emerging in the Arab turmoil.

Xinhua



Trucks loaded with Volkswagen vehicles are seen at a parking lot in Shanghai, east China, March 20, 2013. German automaker Volkswagen has agreed to recall 384,181 vehicles with defective gearboxes in China, the country's quality watchdog said on Wednesday.
XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

National Community Driven Development Project

IDA Grant H814-MM

Assignment Title: Technical Assistance for Mainstreaming Gender

Aspects Reference No.: C-5

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the hiring of consulting services. The Project is being implemented by the Department of Rural Development (DRD). DRD is hiring a gender consultant who will support it in mainstreaming gender aspects into the project. Specifically, the consultant is expected to assist DRD in the following services ("Services"):

- Design gender awareness training and manual with modules appropriate to the different project stakeholders, namely DRD, the Department of Social Welfare, the township aid management sub-committees, the village tract forums, community facilitators and village volunteers, and the CDD Gender Network. The Department of Social Welfare has already developed a gender awareness training module. The consultant will adapt the existing module to the project;
- Develop a training plan for undertaking the training sessions;
- Provide gender training for the project at all levels. The consultant will cooperate with the union level technical assistance for organizing the training sessions;
- Provide inputs on gender reporting, monitoring and tracking regarding the project's gender related indicators.
- Assist DRD in preparing half-yearly progress report on the status of gender mainstreaming in the project, and prepare an annual report on lessons learned from project implementation;
- Assist DRD in organizing an annual workshop for the CDD Gender Network to share experience and lessons learned;
- Provide support to DRD for the organization of a "development marketplace" on gender; and
- Undertake other activities to enhance gender equality under the project as may be required by DRD.

The Department of Rural Development invites eligible consulting firms and NGOs ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information as detail and complete as possible demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The following qualifications are required:

- Experience in developing appropriate gender training, conducting gender analysis, undertaking gender awareness training, and mainstreaming gender aspects in development projects for at least 5 years
- Previous work experience in Myanmar, knowledge of the local socio-economic context and involvement in community development projects in Myanmar
- Availability of staff with relevant work experience who are all fluent in Myanmar language so as to be able to undertake high-quality training and work with all relevant project stakeholders.

The assignment period will be for five years. An annual renewal of the contract will be subject to the satisfactory performance of the consultant as assessed by DRD.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers [January 2011] ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other NGOs/firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection based on Consultants' Qualification (CQS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 09:00 to 16:00. Expressions of Interest must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, fax, or email) by April 8, 2013.

Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Border Affairs

Attn: U Myint Oo, Deputy Director General

Chairperson of the Procurement Committee

National Community Driven Development Project

Department of Rural Development

Ministry of Border Affairs

Office Number 14

Nay Pyi Taw

Myanmar

Fax: +95-67-409413

Email to all these email addresses: myint.oo.dda@gmail.com; kzaw.dda@gmail.com; naing.7.koko@gmail.com.

Actresses today are insecure, says former Bond girl Britt Ekland



Britt Ekland starred in the 1974 Bond film The Man with the Golden Gun opposite Roger Moore.—PTI

LONDON, 21 March— Former Bond Girl Britt Ekland feels the current generation of female stars are very insecure. The 70-year-old, who starred in the 1974 Bond film The Man with the Golden

Gun, said that it's sad that these girls are so conscious about their looks, reported *Daily Express*.

"When I was in The Man With The Golden Gun I probably had a little bit of foundation and some lippie but you look at famous girls now... this whole idea of plumping and Botox and eyebrow-tattooing has gone overboard.

"They must look at themselves in the morning without the two-inch-long eyelashes and fake tan and think, 'This is not good'," she said.

PTI

Bon Jovi edges out David Bowie to top Billboard album chart



Jon Bon Jovi (R) performs with Richie Sambora during the "12-12-12" benefit concert for victims of Superstorm Sandy at Madison Square Garden in New York on 12 Dec 2012. —REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 21 March— US rock band Bon Jovi beat British singer David Bowie to the top of the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday.

Bon Jovi, fronted by Jon Bon Jovi, notched their fifth No. 1 album with "What About Now," which sold 101,000 copies in its debut week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Bowie, 66, a pioneer of Britain's glam rock movement in the 1970s and 1980s, came in at No. 2 with his latest album "The Next Day," selling 85,000 copies.

Bowie's album sold more digital copies than Bon Jovi, with 41,000 copies of "The Next Day" downloaded in comparison to 34,000 copies of "What About Now," which was a bigger seller in retail shops, Billboard magazine said.

Bowie has yet to score a No. 1 album in the United States despite having released 27 studio albums in his career.

"The Next Day" marks the singer's unexpected return to music after a decade-long hiatus, and it topped the British album chart last week while Bon Jovi came in at No. 2.

Bon Jovi and Bowie led among six new debuts in the top 10 of the Billboard 200 this week.

Christian music compilation album "Passion: Let the Future In" landed at No. 4, R&B band Mindless Behaviour debuted at No. 6 with "All Around The World," and Eric Clapton's latest release, "Old Sock," came in at No. 7.

"Sound City - Real to Reel," the star-studded compilation soundtrack to Foo Fighter front man Dave Grohl's documentary "Sound City," which features

Paul McCartney and Stevie Nicks, landed at No. 8 this week.

Legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix's "People, Hell and Angels," the 12th posthumous album from the late rock star's label and which contained 12 previously unreleased studio recordings, rounded out the top 10 this week.

Total US album sales in the past week totalled 5.6 million units, while the year-to-date album sales tally of 61.4 million is down 7 percent from the same period in 2012.

Music industry analysts expect Justin Timberlake's new album "The 20/20 Experience" to top the Billboard 200 chart next week and sell as many as 750,000 copies in its first week.

Reuters

SPORTS

Woods number one with Vonn and maybe rankings too

ORLANDO, (Florida), 21 March—With two wins in his last four starts Tiger Woods appears to have found his groove, found a new girlfriend and by the end of the week could find himself back at the top of the world golf rankings.

Certainly Woods heads into Thursday's start of the Arnold Palmer Invitational with a little extra-spring to his step, fresh off a victory at the WGC-Cadillac champion-

ship and playing on a Bay Hill layout that has been a happy hunting ground for the 14-times major winner. Seven times, including last year, Woods has triumphed at "Arnie's Place" and

one more victory on Sunday would match Sam Snead's PGA Tour record for most wins in a single event.

But despite being back in near peak form, it is Woods' personal life that is

once again in the headlines after confirming he and alpine World Cup ski sensation Lindsey Vonn are happily dating.

"We're very happy where we are at but also we wanted to limit the stalk-a-rassi and all those sleazy websites that are out there following us," Woods told reporters on Wednesday in explaining the reasons behind his surprise announcement this week. "We basically devalued the first photos. Unfortunately that's just the way it is in our society right now."

Following Woods' tumultuous fall from grace, the stars seem to be aligning as he rebuilds his life and image after the scandalous

and very public breakup of his marriage.

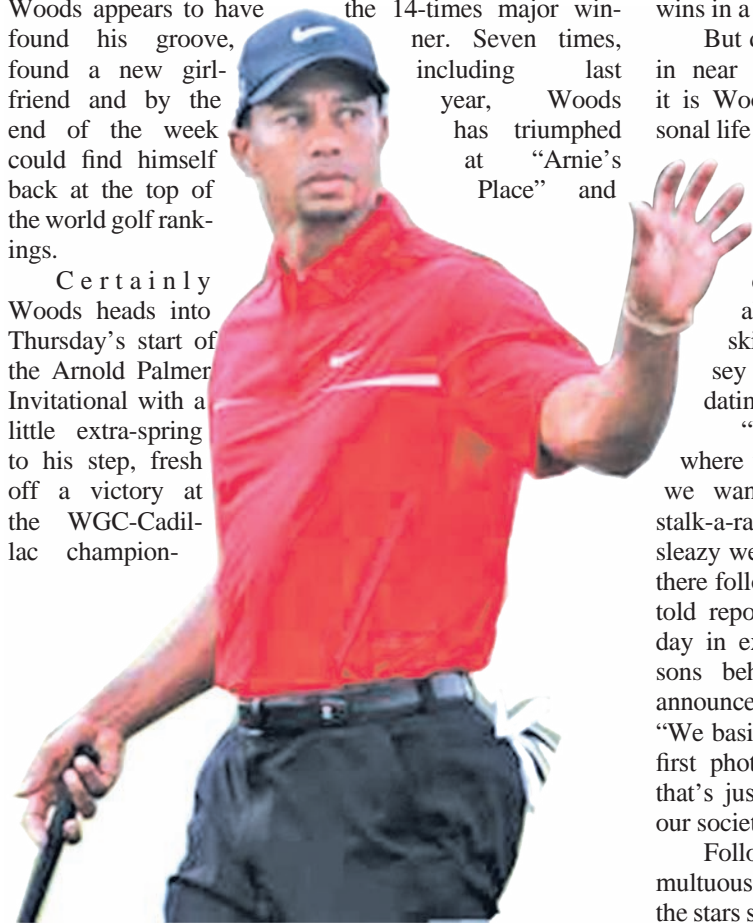
Having already supplanted Rory McIlroy and his tennis star girlfriend Caroline Wozniacki as the sporting world's power couple, Woods could also nudge the Northern Irishman out of top spot in the rankings on Sunday.

After a staggering 623 total weeks (including streaks of 264 and 281 consecutive) as number one, Woods has not sat atop the rankings for 29 months, a barren stretch that included two-and-a-half years without a PGA Tour win.

With his personal life in order and his swing overhaul almost complete, a buoyant Woods has set himself a lofty goal.

"I don't want to become as good as I was, I want to be better," declared Woods. "To get back to number one I need to win this week. Not too complicated."

"I don't think people realise how hard it is to become number one in the world."—Reuters



Tiger Woods

Klinsmann hands Dempsey US captain's armband

DEVER, (Colorado), 21 March—United States coach Juergen Klinsmann has named Tottenham Hotspur forward Clint Dempsey as his captain for the upcoming World Cup games against Costa Rica and Mexico.

Established US skipper Carlos Bocanegra was not selected in the squad that will face Costa Rica in Denver on Friday and Mexico at the Azteca Stadium on Tuesday, and goalkeeper Tim Howard, who was captain in the February defeat to Honduras, is also missing due to a back injury, forcing Klinsmann to make a change.

"Clint is one of our most experienced players and ready to assume a more vocal leadership role," said Klinsmann in comments released by the US Soccer

Federation. "He has been huge for us in World Cup qualifying so far and is already one of our key leaders. We know he will do a great job for these two important games," added the former Germany striker and coach.

Texan Dempsey has made 92 appearances for his country, but has worn the armband only once, taking over the role in the second half of the United States' 0-0 draw against Colombia on 12 October, 2010.

The only other serious contender for the captain's role would have been AS Roma midfielder Michael Bradley, son of previous US head coach Bob Bradley, but at just 25-years-old, he is five years Dempsey's junior. The United States are one of six teams battling for

three automatic qualification slots from the CONCACAF region along with Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Costa Rica and Mexico.—Reuters



United States' Clint Dempsey takes a shot on goal near Panama's Roman Torres (L) during the first half of their CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match in Tampa, Florida on 11 June, 2011.—REUTERS

Injured Wales winger Cuthbert out for up to six weeks

Wales' Alex (L) is tackled by Italy's Gonzalo Canale (bottom) during their Six Nations rugby match at the Olympic stadium in Rome on 23 Feb, 2013. REUTERS



LONDON, 21 March—Wales and Cardiff Blues winger Alex Cuthbert, a leading contender for a place in the British and Irish Lions side to tour Australia this year, will be out of action for up to six weeks with a hamstring injury.

Cuthbert scored two tries in Wales' 30-3 win over England at the Millennium stadium last Saturday which clinched the Six Nations championship.

A statement on the club's website (www.cardiffblues.com) on Wednesday said Cuthbert had strained his hamstring in the opening 30 minutes of the match.

"He is expected to be out for between four to six weeks," the statement said.—Reuters

Bulgarian wrestler Zlateva seeks move from mat to parliament



Stanka Zlateva of Bulgaria celebrates after winning the gold medal against Russia's Ekatarina Bukina after their women's 72kg freestyle wrestling gold medal match at the Senior Wrestling World Championship in Istanbul, on 16 Sept 2011.—REUTERS

SOFIA, 21 March—Five-time world female wrestling champion Stanka Zlateva is planning a move into politics by contesting Bulgaria's parliamentary elections in May.

Zlateva, who also won five European titles and two Olympic silver medals in the 72-kg category, will run as a candidate for the centre-right GERB party, whose government resigned in February following nationwide protests against low living stand-

ards.

"Yes, I accepted the GERB invitation," said the 30-year-Zlateva, who was named Bulgaria's best athlete of the year in 2011, adding that she could make "some good things for Bulgarian sport".

Zlateva did not say whether she would continue to compete if she became a member of parliament in the elections on 12 May.

Reuters

France have Georgia, and not Spain, on their mind

PARIS, 21 March—France coach Didier Deschamps will ram home the message that his side must focus on beating Georgia on Friday and not think about the looming clash with Spain as their 2014 World Cup qualifying campaign takes a decisive turn.

Les Bleus, who have dramatically improved since exiting Euro 2012 in the quarter-finals, are second in Group I with seven points from three games and trail Spain on goal difference.

Tuesday's clash against the world champions in Paris will not count for much, Deschamps said, if France cannot first beat Georgia at the Stade de France. "In our qualifying campaign, if the match against Spain is to mean anything, we first need to win against Georgia," De-

schamps told reporters.

"For the fans, it's as if the Georgia game had already been won. We are not going to say that Georgia are one of the best teams in Europe but they have good players and they are aggressive." Georgia, third in the group with four points from as many games, will likely set out to frustrate the hosts by defending in depth.

"Georgia defended very well against Spain. We could face the same situation," said Deschamps, referring to Spain's 1-0 win in Tbilisi in September, earned by a late Roberto Soldado goal.

"They will come to defend well. We will have to find opportunities to score. We will try to have a team who take control of the ball and creates problems."

Reuters



France's national team coach Didier Deschamps (R) passes by Karim Benzema (L) during a training session in Clairefontaine, near Paris, on 20 March, 2013.—REUTERS

GENERAL

**U Kyaw Zaw Naing
Legal Expert**

**Associate Professor (Rtd), Law Department
Member of Governing Body of Public
Service Media
Aged 65 years**

Beloved son of (U San Chaung)-Daw Mya Hsint of Mawlamyine, son-in-law of (U Aung Pwa)-Daw Than Chi of Pakokku, beloved husband of Daw Tin Win Yi (Librarian, Universities' Central Library) on U Tun Myint Street in Ward 29 of Dagon Myothit (North), younger brother of Daw Khin Than Win (Retired Principal of Commercial School) of Mawlamyine, elder brother of (Dr Than Htay), Dr Zaw Lin, Rector of University of Foreign Languages (Mandalay), Daw Khin San Win (Dean of Studies Department of Mawlamyine Education College) and Dr Thet Aung of Social Security Board's Clinic of Mawlamyine, U Kyaw Zaw Naing passed away at 9.40 am on 21-3-2013. The cremation will be carried out at Yayway Cemetery at 9 am on 23-3-2013 (Saturday).

(Vehicles will leave the residence and the bus-stop of Universities' Central Library at 8 am.)

Bereaved Family

Mozambique increases number of visas issued to Portuguese

MAPUTO, 21 March—The Mozambican Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Henrique Banze said on Wednesday that the number of entry visas issued to Portuguese to go to Mozambique so far this year has increased four times, compared to that in the same period of last year.

"There are a lot of Portuguese citizens requesting visas to Mozambique but there is no problem issuing visas as long as people who request fulfill the necessary requirements," said Banze. Banze made

the remarks after a meeting with the secretary of the Portuguese Speaking Countries Community, José Cesário who ended his 3-day visit to Mozambique which he rated as positive.

The two government officials depreciated rumors that there are conflicts in issuing visas to Mozambique. The rumors started this year when Mozambican authorities repatriated about 27 Portuguese citizens soon after they landed in the Maputo international airport for failing to justify their visit to Mozambique.—Xinhua

Brazil's Kaka gets his turn to impress Scolari

NYON, (Switzerland), 21 March—Brazil's matches against Italy and Russia are billed as friendlies but could be an acid test for midfielder Kaka's hopes of playing in his fourth World Cup next year.

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, taking charge of his second match since being re-appointed in November, said on Wednesday that Kaka will be under the microscope as he continues to look for his ideal team for the Confederations Cup in June and next year's World Cup.

Scolari tested 32-year-old Ronaldinho in last month's friendly against England but the former Barcelona and AC Milan player failed to impress, as he missed a penalty and was substituted at halftime after a ponderous display.

The coach, known as 'Big Phil', had already

made it clear he would test former World Players of the Year Kaka and Ronaldinho separately before deciding whether they were suitable for 2014.

The Real Madrid player gets his turn against Italy on Thursday and Russia on Monday.

"The idea is to bring him (Kaka) on during the (Italy) game and maybe let him start in the match against Russia," Scolari told reporters.

"We want him to show his potential and whether he is in the right condition or not. We want to observe how he blends in with the other players, compare his characteristics with the other players."

Kaka, hampered by injuries over the last few seasons, played for Brazil at the 2002, 2006 and 2010 World Cups.

After the latter tournament, he did not play

Foreign soldier killed in eastern Afghan blast

KABUL, 21 March—One foreign soldier was killed on Wednesday in explosion in eastern Afghan region, the NATO-led ISAF forces confirmed in a statement.

"An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member died following an improvised explosive device attack in eastern Afghanistan today," the ISAF said in the statement.

The brief statement gave neither the nationality of the victim nor the details about the incident under the ISAF policy, only saying "it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities." So far this year, a total of 22 foreign soldiers have been killed in the insurgency-hit country.

Xinhua



Real Madrid's Kaka celebrates his goal against Deportivo La Coruna during their Spanish First Division soccer match at the Riazor stadium in Coruna on 23 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

again until last October when he performed impressively against Iraq and Japa. Scolari said Ronaldinho, whose gradual decline has been widely blamed on his partying lifestyle, would have another chance for forthcoming matches in April and May.

"Then we will analyse if they can play together, if they cannot play together, or if one will be chosen, or neither," he said.

Scolari led Brazil to their fifth world title in 2002 and was re-appointed after Mano Menezes was surprisingly sacked. Menezes had painstakingly rebuilt the team, bringing in younger players and introducing a

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(22-3-13 09:30 am ~ 23-3-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Bangladesh-Myanmar Mutually Beneficial Cooperation
- * Krislite (The Light that outshines)
- * News
- * Music
- * National Herbal Park (Part-II)
- * News
- * Textiles of the Two Lands
- * "Great Shwedagon" Ten Myanmar Traditional Arts & Crafts on the Platform
- * News
- * "Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes" Spiced Crab
- * News
- * Promoting Tourism Through Sports
- * News
- * Textiles of the Two Lands
- * e-sport
- * News
- * Health & Heart to Heart
- * World Economic Forum on East ASIA Media Briefing
- * Myanmar Movies "Dream House"

Myanmar TV

(22-3-2013, Friday)

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|----------------|--|--|
| 7:00 am | 1. Paritta By Venerable MinGun Sayadaw | Lectures) First Year (Physics) |
| 7:25 am | 2. Health Programme | 4:45 pm |
| 7:30 am | 3. Morning News | 15. Road to 27th SEA Games (Pencaksilat) |
| 7:40 am | 4. International News | 4:55 pm |
| 7:50 am | 5. Nice & Sweet Song | 16. Myanmar Language |
| 8:05 am | 6. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies | 5:10 pm |
| 8:15 am | 7. Teleplay (Health) | 17. Documentary |
| 8:30 am | 8. Performance with song | 5:25 pm |
| 8:40 am | 9. Musical Programme | 18. India Drama Series |
| 4:00 pm | 10. Opening Song | 6:00 pm |
| 4:05 pm | 11. Song For Upholding National Spirt | 19. Evening News |
| 4:20 pm | 12. Dance of National Races | 6:15 pm |
| 4:25 pm | 13. Song of Yester Years | 20. Weather Report |
| 4:30 pm | 14. University Of Distance Education (TV) | 6:20 pm |
| | | 21. Amazing World |
| | | 6:50 pm |
| | | 22. TV Drama Series |
| | | 7:00 pm |
| | | 23. News |
| | | 7:10 pm |
| | | 24. TV Drama Series |
| | | 8:00 |
| | | 25. News |
| | | 26. People Talks |
| | | 27. International News |
| | | 28. Weather Report |
| | | 29. Documentary (Interview) |
| | | 30. Songs Programme |
| | | 10:00 pm |
| | | 31. News |
| | | 32. Teleplay |

Volcano erupts in eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 21 March—Mount Lokon in Tomohon of North Sulawesi in eastern parts of Indonesia erupted on Wednesday, spewing ash by up to 2,000 metres high and other volcanic materials, a volcanologist said.

The eruption took place at 07:57 am local time on Wednesday (2257 GMT Tuesday), unleashed volcanic materials on the slope of the volcano, said Kristianto, head of monitoring and search of volcano for eastern Indonesia.

Tourists and residence

are not allowed to enter the territory of 2.5 km from the crater, he told Xinhua by phone.

Nevertheless, there was no evacuation after the eruption, said Kristianto.

Mount Lokon has started increasing seismic activity since end of June 2011, according to Volcanology Agency.

Its eruption last year forced a massive evacuation after it killed a tourist in 1999 after an explosion.

Indonesia, an archipelago country, is homed by 129 active volcanoes.—Xinhua



A visitor takes photos of azalea flowers at the first Fuzhou Azalea Cultural Festival in Fuzhou, capital of southeast China's Fujian Province, on 19 March, 2013.

XINHUA

Myanmar, Vietnam agreed to set up economic cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Vice-President U Nyan Tun met President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Truong Tan Sang at Presidential Palace in Hanoi yesterday.

The two held talks

on promoting economic cooperation in Greater Mekong Sub-region, accelerated implementation in 12 prioritized sectors of the two countries, closer agricultural cooperation, establishment of small- and

medium-scale factories in Myanmar for production of value-added agricultural and rubber products, balanced investment in service and production industries, and potentials of hotel and tourism market in Myanmar.

The Myanmar Vice-President promised to continue comprehensive

cooperation with Vietnam as he met Vietnamese Vice President Madam Nguyen Thi Doan at the same venue.

The Myanmar Vice-President invited his Vietnamese counterpart to visit Myanmar. The Vietnamese Vice-President congratulated Myanmar on success of reform process, (See page 8)

Vice-President U Nyan Tun shakes hands with Vietnamese President Mr Truong Tan Sang at Presidential Palace in Hanoi.—MNA

Sixth regular Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the 2013 Union Budget bill along with the bill revoking the custodian of moveable property act 1945 and the transfer of property act, and central bank of Myanmar bill today.

MP U Aung Thein of Ywangan Constituency is satisfied with the budget bill, saying that the proposed spending is “effective”.

Six laws were approved and signed by the President



Hluttaw Representatives today seen at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. —MNA

during the parliamentary session, namely, the bill abrogating the law against opposition and disruption to systematic, peaceful transfer of power

and national assembly's functions; the legislation amending Traditional Medicine Council; the bill amending Union Auditor-General Law; the bill

amending the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union Law; civil servants law; and the bill amending the law on emoluments, allowances (See page 9)

Meiktila placed under curfew as from 8 pm, 20 March

Effective action to be taken against those who led riot

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Meiktila has been placed under curfew as from 8 pm yesterday after riots sparked by a brawl between buyers and sellers at a gold shop yesterday.

U Khin Maung Win

of Pyunkauk Village, Meiktila Township, and his wife Ma Aye Naing, and Ma Nyo Than arrived the gold shop around 9.30 am to sell their gold clip. After reaching agreement with the shop at the price

of K 10,5000 and went to the market and the buyers brought it into the market for testing it.

When they arrived back, sellers found out that a bit of the gold clip was off and U Tun Tun Oo (a) Arshit, owner of the gold shop, wife Ma Myint Myint Aye and Nyi Nyi (a) Min Aung, staff of the gold shop, offered the price at K50,000 for the gold clip.

During the brawl between the sellers and buyers, Ko Khin Maung Win was sustained a cut and his face was swollen from being beaten.

After the dispute, Meiktila No 2 Police Station has detained three, (See page 9)

Wreckages found in front of the gold shop in Meiktila.—MNA

The 32nd session continues tomorrow.

MNA



Lawmakers call for responsiveness of government

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Lawmaker U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency (6) complained that Union ministries, despite their

for categorizing the government's commitments, public petitions and complaints, and human rights cases according to their degree of immensity;



Amyotha Hluttaw representatives attend the today's session.—MNA

strong commitments, have not taken serious actions.

The parliamentarian at Amyotha Hluttaw session today as regards the proposals submitted to the lower house blamed the Union ministries for not handling the proposals effectively and transparently, questioning their responsiveness.

The lower house speaker put forward a proposal that calls

and assessing the functions and responsive actions of parliamentary committees on a regular basis and sending reminder to the cabinet office and the lower house speaker to send message to the President if there is still no response four months after sending of the reminder.

The lower house approved the instruction of the speaker to apply it as a parliamentary procedure.

Significant Day temperatures (21-3-2013)

Chauk	40°C
Hsinbyugyun	40°C